

Is it more important that we take care of the youngest children in this society and protect working families who want quality child care for their kids, or is it more important that we give huge tax breaks to the wealthy and the powerful?

Mr. Speaker, in my State and all over this country there is a terrible housing crisis.

The bottom line is let us repeal the tax breaks for the richest 1 percent, let us lower the deficit, and let us take care of the middle class of this country.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from California (Ms. SANCHEZ) is recognized for 5 minutes.

(Ms. SANCHEZ addressed the House. Her remarks will appear hereafter in the Extensions of Remarks.)

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from California (Mr. SHERMAN) is recognized for 5 minutes.

(Mr. SHERMAN addressed the House. His remarks will appear hereafter in the Extensions of Remarks.)

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from California (Mr. GEORGE MILLER) is recognized for 5 minutes.

(Mr. GEORGE MILLER of California addressed the House. His remarks will appear hereafter in the Extensions of Remarks.)

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from California (Mrs. DAVIS) is recognized for 5 minutes.

(Mrs. DAVIS of California addressed the House. Her remarks will appear hereafter in the Extensions of Remarks.)

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from North Carolina (Mrs. CLAYTON) is recognized for 5 minutes.

(Mrs. CLAYTON addressed the House. Her remarks will appear hereafter in the Extensions of Remarks.)

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from Florida (Mrs. MEEK) is recognized for 5 minutes.

(Mrs. MEEK of Florida addressed the House. Her remarks will appear hereafter in the Extensions of Remarks.)

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from California (Ms. MILLENDER-McDONALD) is recognized for 5 minutes.

(Ms. MILLENDER-McDONALD addressed the House. Her remarks will appear hereafter in the Extensions of Remarks.)

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from California (Ms. WOOLSEY) is recognized for 5 minutes.

(Ms. WOOLSEY addressed the House. Her remarks will appear hereafter in the Extensions of Remarks.)

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from California (Mrs. CAPPS) is recognized for 5 minutes.

(Mrs. CAPPS addressed the House. Her remarks will appear hereafter in the Extensions of Remarks.)

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from California (Mr. FILNER) is recognized for 5 minutes.

(Mr. FILNER addressed the House. His remarks will appear hereafter in the Extensions of Remarks.)

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from New York (Mr. WEINER) is recognized for 5 minutes.

(Mr. WEINER addressed the House. His remarks will appear hereafter in the Extensions of Remarks.)

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from Texas (Mr. SANDLIN) is recognized for 5 minutes.

(Mr. SANDLIN addressed the House. His remarks will appear hereafter in the Extensions of Remarks.)

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from Maryland (Mr. CUMMINGS) is recognized for 5 minutes.

(Mr. CUMMINGS addressed the House. His remarks will appear hereafter in the Extensions of Remarks.)

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from New York (Mr. OWENS) is recognized for 5 minutes.

(Mr. OWENS addressed the House. His remarks will appear hereafter in the Extensions of Remarks.)

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from Illinois (Ms. SCHAKOWSKY) is recognized for 5 minutes.

(Ms. SCHAKOWSKY addressed the House. Her remarks will appear hereafter in the Extensions of Remarks.)

FISCAL RESPONSIBILITY

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under the Speaker's announced policy of January 3, 2001, the gentleman from Texas (Mr. TURNER) is recognized for 60 minutes as the designee of the minority leader.

Mr. TURNER. Mr. Speaker, this evening during this hour the Blue Dog Democrat coalition in the House is

going to talk about the issue of fiscal responsibility, an issue that we think is very important to address tonight in light of the President's recent budget submission to this Congress.

The President and the Congress are united in the war on terrorism. Members on both sides of the aisle stand together in our commitment to defeat the terrorists and to do whatever is necessary and pay whatever price may be required to preserve our national security and to ensure that we protect the homeland.

There is no division that the current tax cuts that we have enjoyed in the form of the rebates have been important to the American people, and there is no suggestion, contrary to some on the Republican side tonight, that there should be any tax increase in the time of a recession, because we firmly believe that the recession needs to be addressed by this Congress in a responsible way, and tax cuts, tax cuts which have already been given and which already are being implemented in this current recession, are important to the recovery.

So when we debate the resolution on the floor of the House tomorrow, let there be no misunderstanding: Democrats understand that in a recession it would be wrong to increase taxes.

We passed a record tax decrease in June. The tax rebates were good for the American people. But back in June the Congressional Budget Office projected a 10-year surplus of over \$5 billion. Just 7 months later, these projections of a surplus are gone. We find that as a result of the tax cut, as a result of the recession, as a result of the war, we no longer are able to project future surpluses, and, in fact, we can only project future deficits.

We are once again confronted with a pattern of spending that was engaged in for over 30 years by this Congress that was ended in 1996-1997 when this Congress voted for the Balanced Budget Act, an act that put us on the road to fiscal responsibility, that resulted in 3 years of surpluses at the Federal level.

But once again we now see the President of the United States submitting a budget to this Congress that will return us to deficit spending. We believe as Blue Dog Democrats that we can win the war against terrorism, we can protect our homeland, without raiding the Social Security Trust Fund and increasing the national debt that we pass on to our children.

We notice in the President's budget submission of today that the national debt, which was projected back in April of last year to actually disappear over the 10-year period, in fact turn to a surplus, has now evaporated, and, based on the projections now contained in the President's budget, we will once again see \$2.7 trillion in debt by the year 2011.

□ 2030

So in just 7 short months, we went from projections of a surplus over the